

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 VIENTI 01131 040850Z
ACTION EA-09

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INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 DHA-02 SCS-03 SCA-01 ACDA-07
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FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8397
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY PARIS
CINCPAC

CONFIDENTIAL VIENTIANE 1131

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CASC MILI LA US
SUBJECT: LAO PRESIDENT TAKES HARD PUBLIC LINE ON MIA QUESTION

REF: VIENTIANE 1105

SUMMARY: LAO PRESIDENT SOUPHANOUVONG HAS SENT A MESSAGE TO THE WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST NUCLEAR BOMBS IN JAPAN PUBLICLY LINKING THE MIA QUESTION WITH AMERICAN ASSISTANCE TO BIND UP THE WOUNDS OF WAR, EXPANDING SOMEWHAT ON THE LINE KHAMPHAY BOUPHA TOOK WITH EA/VLC DIRECTOR BROWN (REFTEL). END SUMMARY.

1. OFFICIAL LAO PRESS BULLETIN AUGUST 3 CARRIED ON PAGE 1 TEXT OF MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT SOUPHANOUVONG TO WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST NUCLEAR BOMBS. MESSAGE, DATED JULY 29, 1977, WAS SIGNED BY SOUPHANOUVONG IN MULTIPLE CAPACITIES AS PRESIDENT OF LAO PATRIOTIC FRONT, PRESIDENT OF SUPREME PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY, AND CONFIDENTIAL

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PRESIDENT OF THE LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC. AFTER PROCLAMING LAO SOLIDARITY WITH CONFERENCE AND REFERRING TO HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKE, SOUPHANOUVONG ADDRESSED THE MIA QUESTION IN THE FOLLOWING TERMS.

2. "THE LAO PEOPLE HAVE ALWAYS FOUGHT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PEACEFUL WORLD, BECAUSE THE LAO

PEOPLE HAVE KNOWN ALL THE THE CRUELTY OF A LONG WAR, AND MORE ESPECIALLY, OF THE TECHNOLOGICAL WAR WHICH WAS IMPOSED UPON US, THAT WE HAD TO UNDERGO, WITHSTAND AND CONQUER, AND WHICH LEFT US ALL ITS TRAIL OF TEARS AND MOURNING, IRREVERSIBLE RUINS AND IRREPARABLE DESTRUCTION, WITHOUT COUNTING THE HEAVY CONSEQUENCES RESTRAINING THE EFFORTS AT RECONSTRUCTION OF THE COUNTRY, CRUSHING OUR EFFORTS TO BUILD AN AUTHENTICALLY INDEPENDENT AND SOVEREIGN STATE, A JUST AND FRATERNAL SOCIETY, A SELF SUFFICIENT ECONOMY. THUS, NOTABLE, TODAY NOT A DAY PASSES ON WHICH OUR PEOPLE IN THEIR TASK OF PRODUCTION DO NOT HAVE TO MOURN THE DEAD AND THE WOUNDED RESULTING FROM THE EXPLOSION OF DELAYED ACTION BOMBS BURIED AND SPREAD IN THEIR RICE PADDIES, THEIR FIELDS AND THEIR FORESTS. UP TO NOW, THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT WAR STILL REFUSE TO CONTRIBUTE TO BINDING UP THE WOUNDS OF WAR WHICH THEY INFILCTED ON THE LAO PEOPLE AND THEY MAKE EFFORTS TO DECEIVE WORLD OPINION BY DIVERSIONARY MANEUVERS ON PROBLEMS CALLED "HUMANITARIAN", THAT IS TO SAY TO SEEK AND RETURN THE REMAINS OF AMERICAN MILITARY PERSONNEL MISSING IN THE COURSE OF THEIR WAR OF AGGRESSION IN LAOS. ALL JUSTICE IS EQUIPOLENT AND THE TRUE HUMANITARIAN SENSE IS NECESSARILY MUTUAL; THEY REQUIRE THAT THE ADMINISTRATIONS WHICH HAVE FOLLOWED ONE ANOTHER IN WASHINGTON RESOLVE IN A POSITIVE FASHION

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THE PROBLEM OF BINDING UP THE WOUNDS OF WAR, OF THEIR WAR OF AGGRESSION. IN RAISING THIS PROBLEM, THE LAO PEOPLE DESIRE TO CONTRIBUTE POSITIVELY TO THE WORK OF THE PRESENT WORLD CONFERENCE OF 1977 AGAINST THE A AND H BOMBS, ONE OF WHOSE THEMES OF DISCUSSION IS TO SEEK WAYS FOR COMPLETE NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT AND SUPPORT OF THE VICTIMS OF THE AMERICAN A BOMBS. ONE OF THESE WAYS IS TO FORCE THE AGGRESSORS TO ACCEPT THEIR RESPONSIBILITY CONCERNING THE EVIL EFFECTS OF THE WAR AND THE REPARATION OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF THEIR ACTS OF DESTRUCTION. IT IS ONLY IN DOING THIS THAT WORLD OPINION CAN PREVENT NUCLEAR WAR AND FORCE THE WARMAKERS TO AGREE TO DISARMAMENT."

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